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Nov 20 2002

PATENT
450110-03718

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stephen Mark KEATING et al.

Serial No. : 10/006,051

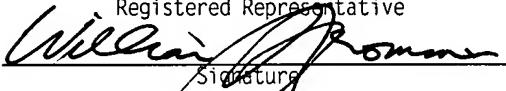
Filed : December 6, 2001

For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Art Unit : 2621

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William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art was cited in the specification of the present application on pages 5, 8 and 12 respectively.

In addition, a number of French patents have come to the attention of applicants. Copies are enclosed, and a short explanation of these patents follows:

FR-2782223-A1 provides background art to the present application. The document relates to a method and apparatus for inserting and decoding a mark in digital data. A sub-group of coefficients are chosen and the coefficients of the sub-group are modulated to insert the supplementary information.

Applicants believe that FR-2782223-A1 does not disclose:

"introducing data into at least one of the sub-bands in a scan direction, said at least one sub-band representing in the transform domain low spatial frequencies of the image in one direction and high spatial frequencies in another direction"

this being one feature of claim 1 of the present application.

FR-2782224-A1 provides background art to the present application. The document relates to a method and apparatus for inserting and decoding a mark in digital data. A sub-group of components of the lowest frequency are chosen and the components of that sub-group are modulated to the insert supplementary information.

Applicants believe that FR-2782224-A1 does not disclose:

"introducing data into at least one of the sub-bands in a scan direction, said at least one sub-band representing in the transform domain low spatial

frequencies of the image in one direction and high spatial frequencies in another direction"

this being one feature of claim 1 of the present application.

FR-2785426-A1 provides background art to the present application. The document relates to a method and apparatus for inserting and decoding a mark in digital data. A sub-group of low frequency coefficients are extracted. The coefficients in the sub-group are entropy decoded and are modulated by a signal representing the supplementary information.

Applicants believe that FR-2785426-A1 does not disclose:

"introducing data into at least one of the sub-bands in a scan direction, said at least one sub-band representing in the transform domain low spatial frequencies of the image in one direction and high spatial frequencies in another direction"

this being one feature of claim 1 of the present application.

So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

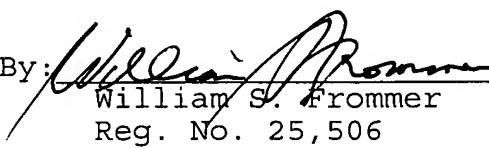
PATENT
450110-03718

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE Form PTO-1449 (5790)			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 450110-03718	SERIAL NO. 10/006,051			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			APPLICANT Stephen Mark KEATING et al.				
			FILING DATE December 6, 2001	GROUP 2621			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						RECEIVED NOV 20 2002
	AI						Technology Center 2600
	AJ						
	AK						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL	FR 2 782 223	02/11/00	France			
	AM	FR 2 782 224	02/11/00	France			
	AN	FR 2 785 426	05/05/00	France			
	AO						
	AP						
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AQ	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, JP 2000 101828 April 7, 2000					
	AR	INSPEC Abstract Accession No. 6821548 PEREIRA et al. (April 2000)					
	AS	C. Valens, "A REALLY FRIENDLY GUIDE TO WAVELETS", 1999 (c. valens@mindless.com)					
	AT	SMPTE Journal, PROPOSED SMPTE STANDARD for Television - Unique Material Identifier (UMID), March 2000, pp 221-225					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
<p>* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>							